

A BRIEF
CHARACTER
Of the
LOW-COUNTRIES
Under the
STATES.
Being three weeks ob-
servation of the Vices
and Vertues of the
INHABITANTS.

— *Non seria semper.* —

LONDON,

Printed for *H. S.* and are to be sold
by *Rich. Lowndes*, at the White
Lion in *St. Pauls Church-yard*,
neer the little North-
door, 1659.

A BRIEF
CHARACTER
OF THE
LOW-COUNTRIES
IN THE
STATES
Being three weeks ob-
servation of the Vices
and Virtues of the
INHABITANTS.

LONDON,
Printed for W. S. and are to be sold
by Rich. Ainslie, at the White
Lion in the Strand, Church-yard,
near the little North-
door, 1679.

TO THE
READER.

AS I live Gentle-
men, I am a-
mar'd how any
piece could be
made such minc'd meat as
this hath been by a twice-
printed Copy, which I find
flying abroad to abuse the
Author, who long since
travelling for companies-
sake with a Friend into
A 3 the

To the Reader.

the Low-Countries, would needs for his own recreation write this Essay of them as He then found them: I am sure as far from ever thinking to have it publique, as he was from any private spleen to the Nation, or any person in it; for I have moved him often to print it, but could never get his consent, his modesty ever esteeming it among his puerilia, and (as he said) a picce too light for a prudential man to publish: the truth is, it was meerly occasional in his youth, and the time so little, that he had for observation (his stay there not being above three weeks)

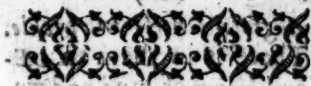
To the Reader.

weeks) that it could not well be expected he should say more; and though the former part be jocular and sportive, yet the seriousness of the latter part, renders the Character no way injurious to the people. And now finding some ruffled feathers only presented for the whole Bird, and having a perfect Copy by me, I have presumed to trespass so much upon the Author as to give it you (in vindication of him) so as I am confident it was dressed by his own Pen. And after I have begged his pardon for exposing it without his Warrant,

To the Reader.

*I shall leave you to judge by
comparing this and the for-
mer Impressions, whether
or no he hath not been abused
sufficiently.*

Three



Three weeks

OBSERVATIONS

Of the

Low-Countries;

Especially

HOLLAND.

THE Hey are a ge-
nerall Sea-
Land. The
great Bog

of Europe.

There is not such another

Marsh in the World that's

flat. They are an universal

Quag-mire. Epitomiz'd,

A 5; A 1

(2)

A green Cheese in pickle.

There is in them an *Æ-*
quilibrium of mud and wa-
ter. A strong Earth-quake
would shake them to a
Chaos, from which the
successive force of the Sun,
rather than Creation, hath
a little emended them.
They are the Ingredients
of a black pudding, and
want only stirring toge-
ther. Marry tis best ma-
king on't in a dry Sum-
mer, else you will have
more blood ~~in it~~;
and then have you no
way to make it serve for
any thing, but to tread it
under *Zona Torrida*, and to
dry it for Turke.

Sayes

Sayes one, it affords the people one commodity beyond all the other Regions; if they die in perdition, they are so low, that they have a shorter cut to Hell than the rest of their neighbours. And for this cause, perhaps, all strange Religions throng thither, as naturally inclining towards their Center. Besides, their Riches shewes them to be *Plato's* Region, and you all know what part that was which the Poets did of old assign him. Here is *Styx*, *Acheron*, *Cocytus*, and the rest of those muddy streames that have made matter for the

the Fblers. Almost every one is a *Charon* here, and if you have but a *Naulum* to give, you cannot want or Boat or Pilot. To confirm all, let but some of our Separatists be asked, and they shall swear that the *Elizian Fields* are there.

It is an excellent Country for a despairing Lover: for every corner affords him willow to make a Garland on; but if justice doom him to be hang'd on any other tree, he may in spite of the sentence live long and confident. If he had rather quench his spirits than suffocate them, so

rather chuse to feed Lobsters than Crows; tis but leaping from his window, and he lights in a River or Sea; for most of their dwellings stand like privies in moted-houses, hanging still over the water. If none of these cure him, keep him but a winter in a house without a stove, and that shall cool him.

The Seyl is all fat, though wanting the colour to shew it so; for indeed it is the buttock of the World, full of veins & bloud, but no bones in't. Had St. *Steven* been condemn'd to suffer here, he might have been alive at this

this day ; for unless it be
in their paved Cities, gold
is a great deal more plen-
tiful than stones, except it
be living ones, and then for
their heaviness you may
take in almost all the Na-
tion.

Tis a singular place to
see fat Monkies in. There
are Spiders as big as
Shrimps, and I think as
many. Their Gardens be-
ing moist, abound with
these. No creatures, for
sure they were bred, not
made, Were they but
as venomous as rank, to
gather herbs were to ha-
zard Martyrdom. They
are so large, that you
would

would almost believe the *Hesperides* were here, and these the *Dragons* that did guard them.

You may travail the Country though you have not a guide: for you cannot baulk your road without the hazard of drowning. There is not there any use of a Harbinger. Wheresoever men go the way is made before them. Had they Cities large as their Walls, ~~Rome~~ would be esteemed a bable. 20. miles in length is nothing for a Waggon to be hurried on one of them, where if your fore-man be sober, you may travail in safety

safety, otherwise, you must have stronger faith than *Peter* had, else you sink immediately. A starting horse indangers you to two deaths at once, breaking of your neck, and drowning.

If your way be not thus, it hangs in the water, and at the Approach of your Waggon shall shake as it were Ague-stricken. *Duke D'Alva's* taxing of the tenth penny frightened it into a *Palsy*, which all the *Mountebanks* they have bred since could never tell how to cure.

'Tis indeed but a bridge of swimming earth, or a flag

flag somewhat thicker
 than ordinary, if the strings
 crack your course is short-
 ned, you can neither hope
 for Heaven nor fear Hell,
 you shall be sure to stick
 fast between them. Marry
 if your Faith flow Purga-
 tory height, you may pray
 if you will for that to
 cleanse you from the Mud
 shall soyl you.

'Tis a green sod in water,
 where if the *German Eagle*
 dares to bath himself, he's
 glad again to pearch that
 he may dry his wings.

Some things they do
 that seem Wonders. 'Tis
 ordinary to see them fish
 for fire in water, which
 they

they catch in nets and
transport to land in their
boats, Where they spread
it more smoothly than a
Mercer doth his *Velvet*
when he would hook in an
heir upon his coming to
age. Thus lying in a field,
you would think you saw
a Cattle of Green Cheese
spread over with black
butter.

If *Aetna* be hells mouth
or fore-gate, sure here is
found the *Postern*. 'Tis
the *Port-Esquiline* of the
world, where the full earth
doth vent her crude black
gore, which the Inhabi-
tants scrape away for fuel,
as men with spoones do
ex-

excrements from *Civit-*
Cats.

Their ordinary pack-horses are all of wood, carry their bridles in their tails, and their burdens in their bellies. A strong tyde & a stiff Gale are the spurs that make them speedy. When they travel they touch no ground; and when they stand still they ride; and are never in danger but when they drink up too much of their way.

There is a Province among them, where every woman carries a Cony in a *Lambskin*. Tis a custom, and not one that travels ever

ver leaves it behind her.
Now guess if you can
what beast that is, which
is clad in a fur both of hair
and wool.

They dresse their meat
in *aqua Calisti*, for it
springs not as ours from
the Earth, but comes to
them, as *Manna* to the *Is-
raelites*, falling from hea-
ven. This they keep under
ground till it stinks, and
then they pump it out a-
gain for use. So when you
wash your hands with one
hand, you had need hold
your nose with the other
for though it be not *Cor-
dial*, 'tis certainly a strong
water.

The

The Elements are here
 at variance, the subtile
 overpowering the grosser.
 The fire consumes the
 earth, and the air the wa-
 ter, they burn Turffs, and
 drain their grounds with
 Wind-mills; As if the
 Cholick were a remedy
 for the Stone; And they
 would prove against Philo-
 sophy the Worlds Consta-
 gnation to be natural, even
 shewing thereby that the
 very Element of Earth is
 combustible.

The Land that they have
 they keep as neatly as a
 Courtier does his Beard.
 They have a method in
 mowing. Tis so inter-
 vein'd

vein'd with Water and Rivers, that it is impossible to make a Common among them. Even the *Brownists* are here at a stand, only they hold their pride in wrangling for that which they never will find. Our Justices would be much at ease although our *English* poor were still among them: For whatsoever they do, they can break no hedges. Sure had the wise men of *Gotham* lived here, they would have studyed some other death for their *Cuckow*.

Their Ditches they frame as they list; and distinguish them into nooks,

as my Lord Majors Cook
doth his Custards. Clense
them they do often; but
'tis as Phyficians give their
potions, more to catch the
fish, than cast the Mud
out.

Though their Country
be part of a main land, yet
every house almost stands
in an Island. And that
though a Boor dwell in it,
looks as smug, as a Lady
that hath newly lockt up
her colours, and laid by
her frons. A gallant mas-
quing suit fits not more
compleat, than a Coat of
thatch though of many
years wearing.

If it stand dry 'tis imbra-
ced

ced by *Vines*, as if it were
 against the nature of a
Dutch-man not to have
Bacchus his neighbour. If
 you find it lower seated,
 'tis only a close Arborin a
 plump of *Willows* and *Al-*
ders; pleasant enough
 while the Dog-daies last;
 But those past once, you
 must practise wading, or
 be prisoner till the next
 spring. Only a hard frost,
 with the help of a sledge,
 may release you.

The Bridge to this is an
 outlandish Plank with a
 box of Stones to poize it
 withall, which with the
 least help turns round, like
 the Executioner when he
 whips

whips off a head. That
when the Master is over,
stands drawn, and then he
is in his Castle.

'Tis sure his fear that
renders him suspicious.
That he may therefore
certainly see who enters,
you shall ever finde his win-
dow made over his door.
But it may be, that is to
shew you his Pedigree, for
though his Ancestors were
never known, their Arms
are there, which (in spight
of Heraldry) shall bear
their Archivement with a
Helmet for a Baron at least.
Marry the Field perhaps
shall be charged with 3.
basquers, to shew what
B trade

trade his father was.

Escutcheons are as plentiful as Gentry is scarce. Every man there is his own Herald; and he that has but wit enough to invent a Coat, may challenge it as his own.

When you are entred the house, the first thing you encounter is a Looking-glasse. No question but a true Embleme of politick hospitality; for though it reflect your self in your own figure, tis yet no longer than while you are there before it. When you are gone once, it flatters the next commer without the least remembrance

brance that you ere were
there gave. *which* *seems*

The next are the vessels
of the house marshalled a-
bout the room like watch-
men. All as new as if you
were in a Citizens Wives
Cabinet; for unless it be
themselves, they let none
of Gods creatures lose a-
ny thing of their native
beauty. *as* *the* *as* *the* *as* *the*

Their houses, especial-
ly in their Cities, are
the best eye-beauties of
their Country. For cost
and sight they far exceed
our English; but they
want their magnificence.
Their dining is yet more
rich than their outside;

not in hangings, but pictures, which even the poorest are there furnished with. Not a cobbler but has his toys for ornaments. Were the knacks of all their houses set together, there would not be such another *Bartholomew-Fair* in *Europe*.

Their Artists for these are as rare as thought, for they can paint you a fat hen in her feathers, and if you want the language, you may learn a great deal of Dutch by their signes; for what they are, they ever write under them. So by this device, hang it up more honestly than they keep it.

Coaches are as rare as Comets; and those that live loosely need not fear one punishment which often vexes such with us: They may be sure, though they be discovered, they shall not be carted.

All their Merchandise they draw through the streets on Sledges; or as we on Hurdles do traitors to execution.

Their rooms are but severall land-boxes: if so, you must either go out to spit, or blush when you see the Map brought.

Their beds are no other than land-cabines, high enough to need a ladder

or stairs. Up once, you are
walled in with Wainscot,
and that is good discretion
to avoid the trouble of
making your Will eve-
ry night; for once falling
out else would break your
neck perfectly. But if you
die in it, this comfort you
shall leave your friends,
that you dy'de in clean
linen.

Whatsoever their es-
tates be, their houses must
be fair. Therefore from
Amsterdam they have ba-
nist Sea-cole, lest it soyl
their buildings, of which
the statelier fort are some-
times sententious, and in
the front carry some con-

ceit

ceit of the Owner. As
to give you a taste in
these.

*Christus Adjutor Meus;
Hoc abdicato Perenne Quaro;
Hic Medio tutius Itur.*

Every door seems stud-
ded with Diamonds. The
nails and hinges hold a
constant brightness, as if
rust there were not a qua-
lity incident to Iron.
Their houses they keep
cleaner than their bodies;
their bodies than their
souls. Goe to one, you
shall finde the Andirons
shut up in net-work. At a
second, the Warming-pan

muffled in Italian Cut-work. At a third the Sconce clad in Cambrick. And like a Crown advanced in the middle of the house, for the woman there is the head of the husband, so takes the horn to her own charge, which she sometimes multiplies, and bestowes the increase on her man.

Tis true, they are not so ready at this play as the *English*; for neither are they so generally bred to't, nor are their men such linnen-jifters. Idlenesse and Courtship has not banish't honesty. They speak more, and do lesse; yet doth

doth their blood boyl high
 and their veins are full,
 which argues strongly that
 when they will they may
 take up the custome of
 entertaining strangers.
 And having once done it;
 I believe they will be no-
 table; for I have heard
 they trade more for love
 than money, but 'tis of
 the sport not the man,
 and therefore when they
 like the pastime they will
 reward the Gamester; o-
 therwise their grosse feed
 and clownish breeding
 hath spoiled them for be-
 ing nobly minded. And
 if you once in publick dis-
 cover her private favours;

or pretend to more than is
civil, she falls off like
fairy wealth disclosed,
and turns like beer with
lightning to a sowrenesse,
which neither Art nor la-
bour can ever make sweet
again.

But this I must give you
on report only; experience
here'n hath neither made
me fool nor wife.

The people are gene-
rally Boorish; yet none but
may be bred to a States-
man, they having all this
gift not to be so nice-con-
scienced but that they can
turn out religion, to let in
policy.

Their Countrey is the
God

God they worship. Warre is their Heaven. Peace is their Hell, and the *Spaniard* is the Devil they hate. Custome is their Law, and their will reason.

You may sooner convert a *Jew*, than make an ordinary *Dutch-man* yield to Arguments that crosse him. An old *Baud* is easilyer turned *Puritan*, than a Waggoner perswaded not to bait thrice in nine miles. And when he doth, his horses must not stirre, but have their manger brought them in to the way, where in a top-swear they eat their grasse.

Grasse, and drink their water, and presently after hurry away. For they ever drive as if they were all the sonnes of *Nimshi*, and were furiously either pursuing an enemy or flying him.

His spirits are generated from the *English Beer*, and that makes him headstrong. His body is built of pickled *Herring*. And they render him testy: these with a little Butter, Onyons & *Holland Cheese* are the ingredients of an ordinary *Dutchman*; which a voyage to the *East-Indies*, with the heat of the *Equinoctiall*, Consolidates.

If

If you see him fat, he hath been rooting in a Cabbage ground and that bladdered him. Viewing him naked, you will pray him to pull off his Masque and Gloves, or wish him to hide his face, that he may appear more lovely. For that and his hands are *Egypt*, however his body be *Europe*. He hath exposed them so much to the Sun and water, as he is now his own disguise, and without a Vizard, may serve in any *Antimasque* you put him in.

For their condition they are Churlish as their breeder

breeder *Neptune*: and without doubt very ancient; for they were bred before manners were in fashion. Yet all they have not they account superfluity, which they say mended some, and marreth many.

They should make good Justices; for they respect neither persons nor appa-
rell. A boor in his liquord
stop, shall have as much
good use as a Courtier in
his bravery: Nay more,
for he that is but Courtly
or Gentile, is among them
like a *Merlyn* after *Micha-*
elmas in the field with
Crowes. They wonder at
and envy, but worship no
such

such Images. Many with a Silver hook you shall catch these Gudgeons presently. The love of gain being to them as naturall as water to a Goose, or Carrion to any Kite that flies.

They are seldom deceived, for they trust nobody, so by consequence are better to hold a fort than win it; yet they can do both. Trust them you must if you travel. For to ask a Bill of particulars, is to purre in a Waspes nest; you must pay what they ask, as sure as if it were the assessment of a Subsidy.

Com-

Complement is an idleness they were never trained up in, and 'tis their happiness that Court vanities have not stole away their mindes from businesse.

Their being Sailors and Souldiers have marred 2. parts already, if they bath once in Court oile they are painted Trapdores. And shall then let the *Jewes* build a City where *Harlem Mere* is, and after cofen 'em on't.

They shall abuse a stranger for nothing, and after a few base terms scotch one another to a *Carbonado*, or as they do their Roaches

ches when they fry them.

Nothing can quiet them but money and liberty, yet when they have them they abuse both ; but if you tell them so you awake their fury ; and you may sooner calm the Sea than conjure that into compass again. Their anger hath no eyes ; and their judgement doth not flow so much from reason as passion and partiality.

They are in a manner all *Aquatiles* : and therefore the *Spaniard* calls them Water-Doggs. To this though you need not condescend ; yet with-all, you may think they
can

can catch you a duck as soon. Sea-Gulls do not swim more readily: nor *More-hens* from their nest run sooner to the water. Every thing is so made to swim among them, as it is a question if *Elizans* his *Axe* were now floating there, it would be taken for a miracle.

They love none but those that do for them; and when they leave off, they neglect them. They have no friends but their kindred; which at every wedding, feast among themselves like Tribes.

All that help them not, they hold popish; and take

it for an argument of much
 honesty, to rail bitter-
 ly against the King of
Spain. And certainly, this
 is the badge of an ill Na-
 ture, when they have
 once cast off the yoke, to
 be most virulent against
 those to whom of right
 they owe respect and ser-
 vice. Gracious dispositi-
 ons, though by their Lords
 they be exempt from ser-
 vice, will yet be paying
 reverence and affection. I
 am confident, that had
 they not been once the
 Subjects of *Spain*, they
 would have loved the na-
 tion better. But now out
 of dying Duties ashes all
 the

the Blazes of hostility and
 flame! And 'tis sufficient
 ground to condemn their
 eternal hate, to know the
 world remembers, they
 were once the lawful sub-
 jects of that most Catho-
 lique Crown.

Their shipping is the
 Babel which they boast on
 for the glory of their Na-
 tion. 'Tis indeed a wonder,
 and they will have it so.
 But we may well hope
 they will never be so
 mighty by Land, lest they
 shew us how doggedly
 they can insult where they
 get the mastery.

'Tis their own *Chroni-
 cle* business, which can tell

you

you that at the Seige of
Leyden, a Fort being held
 by the *Spanish*, by the
Dutch was after taken by
 Assault. The Defendants
 were put to the sword,
 where one of the *Dutch* in
 the fury of the slaughter,
 ript up the Captains body,
 and with a barbarous hand
 tore out the yet living
 heart panting among the
 reeking bowels, then with
 his teeth rent it still warm
 with blood into gobbets,
 which he spitted over the
 battlements, in defi-
 -ance to the rest of the
 Army.

Oh Tigers breed ! The
Scythian-Bear could nere
 have

have been more savage. To be necessitated into cruelty, is a misfortune to the strongly tempted to it; but to let Spleen rave, and mad it in restless blood, shewes nature steeped in livid gall of passion; and beyond all brutishness displays the in noble tyranny of a prevailing Coward.

Their Navies are the whip of Spain, or the Arm wherewith they pull away his Indies. Nature hath not bred them so active for the land as some others: But at Sea they are water-Devils, to attempt things incredible.

In Fleets they can fight close, and rather hazard all than save some, while others perish: but single, they will flag and fear like birds in a bush, when the *Sparrow-Hawks* bells are heard.

A *Turkish* Man of War is as dreadful to them as a *Falcon* to a *Mallard*, from whom their best remedy is to steal away. But if they come to blowes, they want the valiant stoutness of the *English*, who will rather expire bravely in a bold resistance, than yield to the lasting slavery of becoming captives to so barbarous an enemy.

nemy. And this shewes they have not learned yet even Pagan Philosophy, which ever preferred an honourable death before a life thrall'd to perpetuall slavery.

Their ships ly like high Woods in Winter: And if you view them on the Northside you frieze without hope, for they ride so thick, that you can through them see no Sun to warm you with.

Sailers among them are as common as beggars with us. They can drink, rail, swear, niggle, steal, and be lowsie alike; but examining their use, a mess of knaves

their Knaves are worth a million of ours: for they in a boisterous rudeness can work, and live, and toil, whereas ours will rather laze themselves to poverty; and like Cabages left out in winter, rot away in the loathsomness of a nauseous stoth.

Almost all among them are Seamen born, and like frogs can live both on land and water. Not a Country Uriester but can handle an oar, steer a boat, raise a mast, and bear you out in the roughest streights you come in. The ship she avouches much better for sleep than a bed.

C

Being

ing full of humours, that is her cradle, which lulls and rocks her to a dull phlegmatickness, most of them looking like a full grown Oyster boild. Slime, humid air, water, and wet dyet, have so bagg'd their cheeks, that some would take their paunches to be gotten above their chin.

The Countries government is a *Democracy*, and there had need be many to rule such a rabble of rude ones. Tell them of a King, and they could cut your throat in earnest. The very name carries inservitude in it, and they hate it more than a few do. Being C Images,

Images, a Woman old age, or a Non-conformist a surplice.

None among them hath Authority by inheritance, that were the way in time to parcel out their Country to Families. They are chosen all as our Kings chuse Sheriffs for the Counties: not for their sin of Wit, but for the Wealth they have to bear it out withall, which they so over-affect, that *Myn* Here shall walk the Streets as Usurers go to Baudy-houses, all alone & melancholy. And if they may be had cheap, he will daub his faced cloke with

two penni-worth of pickled Herrings which himself shall carrie home in a string. A common voice hath given him preeminence, & he loses it by living as he did when he was but a *Boor*. But if you pardon what is past, they are about thinking it time to learn more civility.

Their justice is strict, if it crosse not Policy: but rather than hinder Traffique tolerates any thing.

There is not under heaven such a Den of several Serpents as *Amsterdam* is, you may be what Devil you will, so you push not the State with your horns,

Tis an University of all Religions , which grow here confus'dly (like stocks in a Nursery) without either order or pruning. If you be unsetled in your Religion , you may here try all , and take at last what you like best. If you fancy none , you have a pattern to follow, of two, that would be a Church by themselves.

Tis the Fair of all the Sects, where all the Pedlers of Religion have leave to vent their toies, their Ribands, and phanatick Rattles. And should it be true , it were a cruel brand which *Romists*

stick upon them. For (say
 they) as the *Chameleon*
 changes into all Colours
 but white: so they admit of
 all Religions but the true;
 for the *Papist* only may
 not exercise his in publick:
 yet his restraint they plead
 is not in hatred but justice,
 because the *Spaniard* a-
 bridges the *Protestant*. And
 they had rather shew a lit-
 tle spleen, than not cry
 quit with their Enemy.
 His act is their Warrant;
 which they retaliat justly.
 And for this reason rather
 than the *Dunkirks* they
 take shall not dy, *Amster-*
dam having none of their
 own, shall borrow a hang-
 man

man from *Harlem*.

Now albeit the *Papists* do them wrong herein, yet can it not excuse their boundles *Toleration*, which shews they place their Republick in a higher esteem than Heaven it self : and had rather crosse upon God than it. For whosoever disturbs the civil Government is lyable to punishment : But the Decrees of Heaven, and Sanctions of the Deity, any one may break uncheck'd, by professing what false Religion he please. So *Consulary Rome* of old, brought all the straggling Gods of other Nations to the City,

where blinded superstition paid an Adoration to them.

In their Families they all are equals, and you have no way to know the master and Mistress, but by taking them in bed together. It may be those are they: Otherwise *Malky* can prate as much, laugh as loud, be as bold, and sit as well as her Mistress.

Had *Logicians* lived here first, Father and Son had never passed so long for Relatives. They are here Individuals, for no Demonstration of Duty or Authority can distinguish them, as if they were created

ated together, and not
born successively. And as
for your Mother, bidding
her goodnight, and kissing
her, is punctual blessing.

Your man shall be saucy,
and you must not strike;
if you do, he shall com-
plain to the *Schont*, and
perhaps have recompence.
Tis a dainty place to please
boies in: for your Father
shall bargain with your
School-master not to whip
you: if he doth, he shall
revenge it with his knife,
and have Law for it.

Their apparel is civil e-
nough and good enough,
but very uncomely; and
hath usually more stuff than

shape. Only their *Huykes* are commodious in winter: but tis to be lamented, that they have not wit enough to lay them by when Summer comes.

Their Women would have good faces if they did not mar them with making. Their *Ear-wyers* have so nipt in their Cheeks, that you would think some Faiery, to do them a mischief, had pincht them behind with Tongs. These they dress, as if they would shew you all their wit lay behind, and they needs would cover it. And thus ordered, they have much more forehead than face.

They

They love the *English* Gentry well; and when Souldiers come over to be billeted among them, they are *Emulous* in chusing of their guest, who fares much the better for being liked by his *Hostess*.

Men and Women are there *starched so blem*, that if they once grow old, you would verily believe you saw *Winter* walking up to the neck in a Barrel of *Indigo*. And therefore they rail at *England* for spending no more *Blewing*.

Your man among them is else clad tolerably, unless he inclines to the *Sea-fashion*: and then are his bree-

breeches , yawning at the knees , as if they were about to swallow his legs unmercifully.

They are far there from going naked , for of a whole woman you can see but half a face. As for her hand, that shews her a sore Labourer ; which you shall ever find as it were in recompence loaden with Rings to the cracking of her fingers If you look lower , She's a Monkey chain'd about the middle , and had rather want it in diet , than not have silver links to hang her keyes in.

Their Gowns are fit to
hide

hide great Bellies, but they make them shew so un-
 handsome that men do not
 care for getting them.
 Marry this you shall find
 to their commendation,
 their smocks are ever whi-
 ter than their skin.

Where the Woman lyes
 in, the Ringle of the door
 does penance, and is lap-
 ped about with linnen; ei-
 ther to shew you that loud
 knocking may wake the
 child; or else that for a
 moneth the Ring is not to
 be run at. But if the child
 be dead, there is thrust out
 a Nosegay tyed to a sticks
 end; Perhaps for an em-
 blem of the life of man,
 which

which may wither as soon as born; or else to let you know, that though these fade upon their gathering, yet from the same stock, the next year a new shoot may spring.

You may rail at us for often changing; but I assure you with them is a great deal more following the fashion; which they will plead for as the ignorant Laity for their faith. They will keep it because their Ancestors lived in it. Thus they wil rather keep an old fault though they discover errors in it, than in an easie change to meet a certain Remedy.

For

For their dyet, they eat much and spend little: when they set out a Fleet to the *Indies*, It shall live three moneths on the *Of-fals*, which we here feare would surfeit our swine: yet they feed on't, and are still the same *Dutch-men*.

In their houses Roots and Stock-fish are staple-commodities. If they make a feast and add flesh, they have art to keep it not more daies, than a *Pigs head* in *Py Corner*. Salt meats, & sowre *Cream*, they hold him a fool that loves not, onely the last they correct with Sugar, and
are

are not half so well pleased with having it sweet at first, as with letting it sowe that they may sweeten it again, as if a woman were not half so pleasing being easily won, as after a scolding fit she comes by man to be calmed again.

Fish indeed they have brave and plentiful; and herein practice hath made them Cooks as good as ere *Lucullus* his latter Kitchen had, which is some recompence for their wilfulness, for you can neither pray nor buy them to alter their own Cookery,

To a feast they come
rea-

readily, but being set once you must have patience. They are longer eating meat than we preparing it. If it be to supper, you conclude timely when you get away by day-break. They drink down the evening Starre, and drink up the morning Starre. At those times it goes hard with a stranger, all in courtesie will be drinking to him, and all that do so he must pledge: till he doth, the fill'd Cups circle round his Trencher, from whence they are not taken away till emptied. For though they give you day for payment, yet they will not abate

bate the sum. They sit not there as we in *England*, men together, and women first; but ever intermingled with a man between: and instead of March-panes, and such juncates, tis good manners if any be there, to carry away a piece of Apple-Py in your pocket.

The time they there spend, is in eating well, in drinking much, and prating most. For the truth is, the compleatest drinker in *Europe* is your English Gallant. There is no such Consumer of liquor as the Quaffing off of his Healths. Time was the

Dutch

Dutch had the better of it; but of late he hath lost it by prating too long over his pot. He sips, and laughs, and tells his tale, and in a Tavern is more prodigal of his time, than his Wine. He drinks as if he were short-winded; and as it were eats his drink by morsels, rather besieging his brains than assaulting them. But the *Englishman* charges home on the sudden, swallows it whole, & like a hasty tide, fills, and flows himself, till the mad brain swims, and tosses on the hasty fume. As if his Liver were burning out his stomach,

mach, and he striving to quench it, drowns it. So the one is drunk sooner, and the other longer. As if striving to recover the wager, the *Dutchman* would still be the perfectest soker.

*In this Progress
you have seen some
of their Vices,
now view a Fairer
Object.*

Solo-



Solomon tells
of four things
that are small and
full of VVisdome,
The Pismire, the
Grasse-hopper, the
Coney, and the
Spider.

FOR PROVIDENCE they
 are the *Pismires* of the
 World: and having no-
 thing

thing but what grasse af-
 fords them; are yet for al-
 most all Provisions, the
 Store-house of the whole
 of *Christendom*. What is it
 which there may not be
 found in plenty? They ma-
 king by their industry all
 the fruits of the vast Earth
 their own. What Land can
 boast a privilege that they
 do not partake of? They
 have not of their own e-
 nough materials to com-
 pile one ship; Yet how ma-
 ny Nations do they fur-
 nish? The remoter angles
 of the world do by their
 pains deliver them their
 sweets; and being of them-
 selves in want, their dili-
 gence

gence hath made them both *Indies* neerer home.

They are frugal to the saving of Eg-shells, and maintain it for a Maxime, that a thing lasts longer mended than new.

Their *Cities* are their *Mole-hills*; Their *Schutes* and *Flyboats*, creep and return with their store for Winter. Every one is busie and carries his grain; as if every City were a severall *Hive*, and the *Bees* not permitting a drone to inhabit; For idle persons must finde some other mansion. And lest necessity bereave men of means to set them on Work, there
 29v1g are

are publique Banks that
(without use) lend upon
pawns to all the poor that
want.

There is a season when
the *Pismires* fly, and so each
Summer they likewise
Swarm abroad with their
Armies.

The *Ant*, sayes one, is a
wise creature, but a shrewd
thing in a Garden or Or-
chard. And truly so are
they; For they look upon
others too little, and upon
themselves too much.
And wheresoever they
light in a pleasant or rich
soyl, like suckers & lower
plants, they rob from the
root of that tree which
gives

gives them shade and protection, so their wisdom is not indeed Heroick or Numnial; as Courting an Universall Good; But rather narrow and restrictive; As being a wisdom but for themselves. Which to speak plainly, is descending into Craft; and is but the sinister part of that which is really Noble and Coelestiall.

Nay in all they hold so true a proportion with the *Emmet*, as you shall not find they want so much as the sting.

For dwelling in Rocks they are Conies. And while the *Spanish* tumbler
D plaies

plaies about them, they
 rest secure in their own in-
 accessible Berries. Where
 have you under Heaven,
 such impregnable Fortifi-
 cations? Where Art beau-
 tifies Nature, and Nature
 makes Art invincible:
 Herein indeed they differ;
 The Conies find Rocks,
 and they make them. And
 as they would invert the
 miracle of *Moses*, They
 raise them in the bosom
 of the waves: where with-
 in these twenty years,
 ships furrowed in the
 pathless Ocean, the peace-
 full plough now unbowels
 the fertile earth, which
 at night is carried home to
 the

the fairest Mansions in
Holland.

Every Town hath his
Garrison; and the keyes
of the Gates in the night-
time are not trusted but
in the State-house. From
these holds they bolt a-
broad for provisions, and
then return to their fast-
nesses replenished.

For war they are Grasse-
hoppers, & without a King,
go forth in bands to con-
quer Kings. They have not
only defended themselves
at their own home, but
have braved the *Spaniard*
at his. In *Anno* 1599, un-
der the command of *Van-*
der Does, was the Grand

Canary taken. The chief City sackt; the King of Spain's Ensigns taken down, and the colours of his Excellency set up in their room. In the year 1600 the battel of *Nieuport* was a gallant piece, when with the losse of a thousand or little more, they flew 7000 of their enemies, took above a 100 Ensigns, the Admirall of *Aragon* a prisoner. The very furniture of the Arch Duke's own Chamber and Cabinet, yea the signet that belonged to his hand. In 1607. they assailed the Armada of Spain in the Bay of *Gibraltar*, under

covert

covert of the Castle and Towns Ordnance, & with the losse of 150, flew above 2000, and ruined the whole Fleet. Certainly a bolder attempt hath ever scarce been done. The *Indian* Mastiff never was more fierce against the angry Lion. Nor can the Cock in his crowing valour, become more prodigal of his blood than they.

There hardly is upon earth such a school of Martial Discipline. Tis the Christian worlds *Academy* for Arms; whither all the neighbour Nations resort to be instructed; where they may observe

how unresistible a blow many small grains of powder will make, being heaped together, which yet if you separate, can do nothing but sparkle and die.

Their recreation is the practice of Arms; And they learn to be souldiers sooner than men. Nay, as if they placed a Religion in Arms, every Sunday is concluded with the train'd Bands marching through their Cities.

For industry, they are *Spiders*, and are in the Palaces of Kings. Of old they were the guard of the person of the *Roman* Emperor; And by the *Romans* them-

themselves declared to be their friends and companions. There is none have the like intelligence; Their Merchants are at this day the greatest of the Universe. What Nation is it, where they have not insinuated? Nay, which they have not almost anatomized, & even discovered the very intrinsick veins on't?

Even among us, they shame us with their industry, which makes them seem as if they had a faculty from the worlds Creation, out of water to make dry land appear. They win our drowned grounds which we cannot recover,

and chase back *Neptune* to his own old Banks.

All that they do is by such labour as it seems extracted out of their own bowels. And in their wary thrift, they hang by such a slender sustentation of life, that one would think their own weight should be enough to crack it.

Want of Idleness keeps them from want. And tis their Diligence makes them Rich.

A fruitful Soil encreaseth the Harvest. A plentiful Sunne augmenteth the Store; and seasonable showres drop fatness on the Crop we reap. But
no

no Rain fructifies more
than the dew of Sweat.

You would think being
with them you were in old
Israel, for you find not a
beggar among them. Nor
are they mindful of their
own alone; but strangers
also partake of their Care
and Bounty. If they will
depart, they have money
for their Convoy. If they
stay, they have work pro-
vided. If unable, they
find an Hospitall. Their
Providence extends even
from the Prince to the
catching of flies. And
lest you lose an afternoon
by fruitless mourning, by
two of the clock all Busi-

als must end. Wherein
to prevent the wast of
ground, they pile Coffin
upon Coffin till the Se-
pulchre be full.

In all their Manufactures
they hold a truth and con-
stancy: for they are as
fruits from Trees, the
same every year that they
are at first; Not Apples
one year and Crabs the
next; and so for ever after.
In the sale of these they
also are at a word, they
will gain rather than ex-
act, and have not that
way whereby our Citizens
abuse the wise, and cozen
the ignorant; and by their
infinite over-asking for
com-

commodities proclaim to the world that they would cheat all if it were in their power.

The Depravation of Manners they punish with Contempt, but the defects of nature they favor with charity. Even their *Bedlam* is a place so curious, that a Lord might live in it; Their *Hospital* might lodge a Lady: So that safely you may conclude, amongst them even Poverty and Madness do both inhabit handsomely. And though Vice makes every thing turn sordid, yet the State will have the very correction of it to be neat, as if they;

they would shew that though obedience fail, yet Government must be still it self, and decent. To prove this, they that do but view their *Bridewell* will think it may receive a Gentleman though a Gallant. And so their prison a wealthy Citizen. But for a poor man tis his best policy to be laid there, for he that cast him in must maintain him.

Their Language though it differ from the higher *Germany*, yet hath it the same ground, and is as old as *Babel*. And albeit harsh, yet so lofty and full a Tongue as made *Goropius Bec-*

Becanus maintain it for the speech of *Adam* in his Paradise. And surely if there were not other reasons against it, the significancy of the Antient *Tentonick* might carry it from the primeſt Dialect. *Stevin* of *Bruges* reckons up 2170 Monasillables, which being compounded, how richly do they grace a Tongue? A Tongue that for the general profeſſion is extended further than any that I know. Through both the *Germanies*, *Denmark*, *Norway*, *Sweden*, and ſometimes *France*, *England*, *Spain*. And ſtill among us all our old words are
Dutch,

Dutch, with yet so little change, that certainly it is in a manner the same that it was 2000 years agoe, without the too much mingled borrowings of their neighbour Nations.

- The *Germans* are a people that more than all the world I think may boast sincerity, as being for some thousands of years a pure and unmixed people. And surely I see not but their conduction by *Tuisco* from the building of *Babel*, may passe as unconfuted Story, they yet retaining the Appellation from his Name.

They are a large and
nu-

numerous people, having ever kept their own, and transported Colonies into other Nations. In *Italy* were the *Longobards*; In *Spain* the *Goths* and *Vandalls*; In *France* the *Franks* or *Franconians*; In *England* the *Saxons*: having in all these left reverend Steps of their Antiquity and Language.

It is a noble Testimony that so grave an Historian as *Tacitus* hath left still extant of them, and written above fifteen hundred years agoe: *Deliberant dum fingere nesciunt: Constituunt dum errare non possunt.* They deliberate when they

they cannot dissemble and
 resolve when they cannot
 erre.

Two hundred and ten
 years he reckons the Ro-
 mans were in conquering
 them. In which space on
 either side were the losses
 sad and fatal. So as nei-
 ther the *Samnites*, the *Car-
 thaginians*, the *Spaniards*,
 the *Gaules*, no nor the *Par-
 thians* ever troubled them
 like the *Germans*. They
 flew and took prisoners
 several Commanders of
 the highest rank, as *Carbo*,
Cassius, *S. Caurus Aureli-
 us*, *Cervilius Cepio*, and
M. Marcius. They defea-
 ted five Consular Armies,
 and

and *Varus* with three legions, yet after all this he concludes, *Triumphati magis quam victi sunt*, They were rather Triumphed over than conquered. To confirm this, the keeping of their own language is an argument unanswerable. The change whereof ever follows upon the fully vanquished, as we may see it did in *Italy, France, Spain, England.*

And this he speaks of the Nation in general: nor was the opinion of the *Romans* less worthy in particular concerning these lower Provinces which made

made them for their valor and warlike minds, stile them by the name of *Gallia Belgica*, and especially of the *Batavians*, which were the *Hollanders* and part of *Guelders*. You may hear in what honorable terms he mentions them, where speaking of the several people of Germany, he saies, *Omnium harum Gentium virtute praecepti Batavi: Nam nec tribucis contemnuntur, nec publicanus atterit: exempti oneribus & Collationibus, & tantum in usum praeliorum sepositi, velut tela atque Arma Bellis reservantur.* Of all these Nations the principal

cipal in valiant vertue are
 the *Batavians* : for neither
 are they become despica-
 ble by paying of Tribute,
 nor oppressed too much
 by the Farmor of publick
 Revenues, but free from
 Taxes and Contributions
 of servility; they are spe-
 cially set apart for the
 fight, as Armour and
 Weapons onely reserv'd
 for Warre.

All this even at this day
 they seem to make good
 For of all the world
 they are the people that
 thrive and grow rich by
 the war, like the *Porcupise*,
 that playes in the storm,
 but at other times keeps
 sober

Tober under the water.
 War, which is the worlds
 ruin, and ravins upon the
 beauty of all, is to them
 Prosperity and Ditation.
 And surely the reason of
 this is their strength in
 shipping, the open Sea,
 their many fortified
 Towns, and the Country
 by reason of its lowness
 and plentiful Irrigation
 becoming unpassable for
 an Army when the winter
 but approaches. Other-
 wise it is hardly possible
 that so small a parcell of
 Mankind, should brave
 the most potent Monarch
 of Christendom, who in
 his own hands holds the
 Mines

Mines of the wars sinews,
 Money, and hath now got
 a command so wide, that
 out of his Dominions the
Sunne can neither rise nor
 set.

The whole seventeen
 Provinces are not above a
 thousand *English* miles in
 circuit. And in the States
 hands there is not seven of
 those. Yet have they in the
 field sometimes 60000
 Souldiers, besides those
 which they alwaies keep
 in Garrison, which cannot
 be but a considerable
 number neer thirty thou-
 sand more. There being
 in the whole Countries a-
 bove two hundred wall'd
 Towns

Towns and Cities. So that if they have People for the War, one would wonder where they should get money to pay them; They being, when they have an Army in the field, at a thousand pound a-day charge extraordinary.

To maintain this, their Excise is an unwasted Mine, which with the Infinitenes of their Traffick, and their untired Industry, is by every part of the World in something or other contributed to.

The Sea yields them by two sorts of Fish only, *Herrings* and *Cod*, sixty thousand pound *per annum*; for which

which they go out sometimes seven or eight hundred boats at once, and for greater ships, they are able to set out double the number.

Their Merchandise amounted in *Guicciardines* time to fourteen Millions *per Annum*. Whereas *England*, which is in compass almost as large again, and hath the Ocean as a Ring about her, made not above six Millions yearly: so sedulous are these Bees to labour and enrich their Hive.

As they on the Sea, so the women are busie on Land in weaving of Nets,
and

and helping to add to the heap. And though a husbands long absence might tempt them to lascivious wayes: yet they hate adultery, and are resolute in Matrimonial chastity. I do not remember that ever I read in Story, of any great Lady of that nation, that hath been tax'd with looseness. And questionless, tis their ever being busie makes them not have leisure for lust.

Tis idleness that is *Cupid's* Nurse; but business breaks his Bow, and makes his Arrowes useless.

They are both Merchants

chants and Farmers. And
 there are parts, which men
 can but discharge with us.
 As if they would shew
 that the Soul in all is mas-
 culine, and not varied into
 weaker sex as are the bo-
 dies that they wear about
 them.

Whether this be from
 the nature of their Coun-
 try, in which if they be
 not laborious they cannot
 live; or from an Innate
 Genius of the people by a
 Superiour Providence ad-
 apted to them of such a
 situation; from their own
 inclination addicted to
 parsimony; from custom
 in their way of breeding;
 E from

from any Transcendency
 of active parts more than
 other Nations, or from
 being in their Country A
 like people in a City be-
 sieged, whereby their own
 vertues do more compact
 and fortifie. I will not
 determine. But certain-
 ly in generall they are
 the most painful and dili-
 gent people on earth; And
 of all other the most tru-
 ly of *Hesperi*ans opinion to
 think, that *Ex re quali-*
bet bonus odor lucris. Be ie
 raised from what it will,
 the smell of gain is plea-
 sant.

Yet they are in some
 sort Gods, for they set
 bounds

bounds to the Sea: and
 when they list let it passe
 them. Even their dwell-
 ing is a miracle. They
 live lower than the fishes.
 In the very lap of the
 floods, and incircled in
 their watry Arms. They
 are the *Israelites* passing
 through the Red Sea.
 The waters wall in them,
 and if they set ope their
 sluices shall drown up their
 enemies.

They have strugled long
 with *Spains Pharaoh*; and
 they have at length in-
 forced him to let them
 go. They are a *Glatins*
 Army upon the march a-
 gain. They are the *In-
 dian*

dian. Rat, gnawing the
 bowels of the *Spanish Cro-*
codile, to which they got
 when he gap'd to swallow
 them. They are a fer-
 pent wreathed about the
 legs of that *Elephant*.
 They are the little sword-
 fish pricking the bellie of
 the *Whale*. They are the
 wane of that Empire,
 which increas'd in *Isabella*,
 and in *Charles* the fifth was
 at full.

They are a glass where-
 in Kings may see that
 though they be Sove-
 reigns over lives & goods,
 yet when they usurp upon
 Gods part, and will be
 Kings over conscience too,
 they

they are sometimes punished with losse of that which lawfully is their own. That Religion too fiercely urg'd is to stretch a string till it not onely jars, but cracks; and in the breaking, whips (perhaps) the streiners eye out.

That an extreme taxation is to take away the Honey while the Bees keep the Hive, whereas he that would take that, should first either burn them, or drive them out. That Tyrants in their Government, are the greatest Traitors to their own States. That a desire of be-

ing too absolute is to walk upon *Pinacles* and the tops of *Pyramides*, where not only the footing is full of hazard, but even the sharpness of that they tread on may runne into their foot & wound them. That too much to regrate on the patience of but tickle Subjects, is to press a throne till it priek your finger. That nothing makes a more desperate Rebelle than a Prerogative enforced too far.

That liberty in man is as the skin to the body, not to be put off, but together with life. That they which will command

more than they ought,
shall not at last command
so much as is fit.

That moderate Princes
sit faster in their Regali-
ties, than such as being but
men, would yet have their
power over their Subjects,
as the Gods unlimited.

That oppression is an iron
heat till it burns the hand.

That to debarre some
States of *antient Privi-
ledges*, is for a Falcon to
undertake to beat a flock
of Wild-geese, out of the
Fras.

That to go about
to compel a sullen reason
to submit to a wilful pe-
remptoriness, is so long to
beat a chain'd Mastiffe in-

to his kennell, till at last
 he turns and flies at your
 throat. That unjust policy
 is to shoot as they did at
Ostend, into the mouth of
 a charged Canon, to have
 two Bullets returned for
 one. That he doth but
 indanger himself, that ri-
 ding with too weak a Bit,
 provokes a headstrong
 horse with a spur. That tis
 safer to meet a valiant
 man weaponless, than al-
 most a coward in Armor.
 That even a weak cause
 with a strong Castle, will
 sell salt blood to a Rebel-
 lionous Itch. That tis better
 keeping a Crazy body in
 an equal temper, than to
 01 anger

anger humors by too sharp
a Physicke: *EquoQ ad*

That Admonitions from
a dying man are too seri-
ous to be neglected. That
there is nothing certain
that is not impossible.
That a Cobler of *Wissing*
was one of the greatest e-
nemies that the King of
Spain ever had. *is past*

To conclude, the Coun-
try it self is a Moted Ca-
stle, keeping a Garnish of
the richest Jewels of the
World in't; The Queen
of *Bohemia* and her Prince-
ly Children. *001 001 001*

The people in it are
Jews of the New Testa-
men, that have exchanged
001 nothing

nothing but the Law for
the Gospel: and this they
rather profess than pra-
ctise. Together a man of
War riding at *Amobon* in
the Downs of *Germany*.

For forrein Princes to
help them is wise self-po-
licy. When they have
made them able to de-
fend themselves against
Spain, they are at the Pale,
if they enable them to of-
fend others they go be-
yond it. For questionless,
were this thorn out of the
Spaniards side, he might
be feared too soon to grasp
his long intended Monar-
chy. And were the *Spani-
ard* but possessed Lord of
garrison the

the Low Countries, or had the States but the wealth and power of *Spain*; The rest of *Europe* might be like people at Sea in a Ship on fire: that could only chuse whether they would drown or burn. Now, their war is the peace of their neighbours. So *Rome* when busied in her civil Broils, the *Parthians* lived at rest; but those concluded once, by *Cesar* next are they designed for conquest.

If any man wonder at these contraries, let him look in his own body for as many several humors. In his own brain for as many different Fancies. In his

his own heart for as vari-
ous passions; and from all
these he may learn, That
there is not in all the
world such another Beast
as *Man*.

F I N I S.

